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Staff Photo

COL. LEAR REED (left) MAKES A POINT DURING CLASS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT
Carroll Hormachea (right) is Co-ordinator of the Program at RPI

Teacher Lauds RPI Police Program

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The state's first college law enforcement degree program at Richmond Professional Institute won't turn out a "Sherlock Holmes."

However, this doesn't at all disturb Carroll Hormachea, the assistant professor of sociology who came to RPI this year as the program's co-ordinator.

He feels that the program, nearing the end of its first semester in operation, has been coming along on a more-than-satisfactory basis.

"I'm well pleased and very impressed with the response . . ." he remarked in an interview. "It seems that people really are behind us and are interested in seeing that the program goes."

The primary aim of the program, Hormachea explained, is the "professionalization of law enforcement." He feels that, in keeping with the age of specialization, law enforcement now is a profession.

An estimated 55 students, most of whom are police officers, are in the new program, Hormachea said.

"To my knowledge, all of the police

units in this area are represented (in the student body)," he said.

The majority of the students come from the Richmond Police Bureau. Others come from police forces of the State Capitol and State police and nearby localities such as Henrico, Chesterfield and Hanover counties and Petersburg.

Hormachea said the students seem to be "extremely interested" in the program. "They feel they are doing something to better themselves . . ." he said.

An indication of the interest, Hormachea believes, is that many policemen not enrolled in the program have come to him with inquiries. Presumably, they had been told about the program by participants.

Basically, the program is a two-year course. Students who successfully complete the curriculum receiving an associate in arts degree in law enforcement.

The first year offers basic courses in English, biology, mathematics, sociology and psychology. In the second year, the program becomes more specialized with concentration on courses in law enforcement, sociology and psychology.

Only one law enforcement course, "Introduction to Police Science," is offered this semester. Two others—"Police Organization and Administration" and "Community Relations and the Police"—will be added next semester.

A two-man staff, made up of Hormachea and Col. Lear Reed, has been set up to take care of instruction in the program.

Hormachea holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Trinity University and has done some work toward a doctorate. Before coming here, he taught at Washington State University and at High Point College in North Carolina.

Colonel Reed, who formerly taught in the Federal Bureau of Investigation and in the Central Intelligence Agency, took his pre-law training at the University of Richmond. He holds an LL.B. degree from Georgetown University.

What about expansion plans for the budding law enforcement program? "Plans to expand the program 'as the need and demand arise,'"